

# KU Parent E-News

## January 2006

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The information in this newsletter is meant to inform you of selected current and upcoming events at the University of Kansas as well as information that parents can discuss with their students. Your feedback is important and you are encouraged to send your comments to [parents@ku.edu](mailto:parents@ku.edu).

### **Starting the Spring Semester**

Many student service related offices will offer extended hours January 17 through 20. Offices will be staffed from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for those days except on Friday when they will remain open until 5 p.m.

Offices with extended hours include:

- ◆ Academic Achievement & Access Center, 22 Strong Hall
- ◆ Academic Technology Services, 45 Strong Hall
- ◆ Bursar's Office, 20 Carruth-O'Leary (cash-related functions closed at 4 p.m.)
- ◆ Campus phone operators, (785) 864-2700
- ◆ College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: Student Academic Services, 109 Strong Hall
- ◆ Computing Help Desk, (785) 864-0200
- ◆ Department of Student Housing, Suite DSH in Corbin Hall
- ◆ Freshman-Sophomore Advising Center, 126 Strong Hall
- ◆ The Kansas Union, Jayhawk Boulevard
- ◆ KU Card Center, level 4 in the Kansas Union (cash-related functions close at 4 p.m.)
- ◆ New Student Orientation, 213 Strong Hall
- ◆ Student Involvement and Leadership Center, level 4 in the Kansas Union
- ◆ Office of Admissions & Scholarships, KU Visitor Center
- ◆ Office of Student Financial Aid, 50 Strong Hall
- ◆ Office of Multicultural Affairs, 145 Strong Hall
- ◆ Office of the University Registrar, 121 Strong Hall
- ◆ Office of the Vice Provost for Student Success, 133 & 113 Strong Hall

Residence halls and scholarship halls reopen for the spring semester January 17th, and classes begin January 20th.

## **Celebrating Martin Luther King Day**

The Multicultural Resource Center and the Office of Multicultural Affairs will present “Walking the Dream,” a luminaria walk honoring King’s legacy, Jan. 23 on Jayhawk Boulevard. The luminaria walk will start at 7 p.m. in front of Strong Hall. Participants will walk along Jayhawk Boulevard, reflecting on King’s legacy. The evening will end in Woodruff Auditorium in the Kansas Union with a special performance by the Inspirational Gospel Voices and featured speaker Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II. For more information visit: [www.mrc.ku.edu/](http://www.mrc.ku.edu/)



## **Fitness Assessment and the New Year**

The Student Recreation and Fitness Center Staff offers many wellness programs. One such program is a fitness assessment. The FIT4U, fitness assessment program, includes an assessment of:

- ◆ Resting Heart Rate
- ◆ Blood Pressure
- ◆ Flexibility
- ◆ Cardiovascular Endurance
- ◆ Percent Body Fat
- ◆ Muscular Strength & Endurance

After the assessment an exercise specialist will design a flexibility, cardiovascular & resistance training program to assist students in reaching their goals. Registration is easy! Students can stop by the Welcome Center at the Student Recreation Fitness Center or call 864-3546 to set up an appointment.

All individuals must complete and return a registration packet. The packet needs to be returned 3 days prior to the scheduled session. Faculty/Staff must make their payment before receiving the packet.

There is no fee for the Initial Assessment for students.  
To learn more: [www.recreation.ku.edu/](http://www.recreation.ku.edu/)

## **Course Repeat Policy**

The Course Repeat Policy allows qualified students to repeat courses for credit if they made a D or an F in the original course. Students who wish to repeat a semester-long course must register their choice in the Dean’s Office of the school where the course is offered no later than the fifth and sixth weeks of the semester. If a course is approved for the policy, both courses will appear on the official academic transcript, but the original course grade will not be computed into the student’s grade point average.

In addition, the following criteria must be met in order to invoke the repeat policy:

- ◆ The student must be currently seeking a baccalaureate degree.
- ◆ The original course was taken in the first 60 credit hours attempted.

- ◆ The original course was taken at the University of Kansas and resulted in a D or F.
- ◆ The student retakes the course at the University of Kansas.
- ◆ The student has previously taken the course only once.
- ◆ The student is not retaking the course with a Credit/No Credit option.
- ◆ The repeated course is not a prerequisite for a course already passed.
- ◆ The original grade was not a result of recorded cheating or disciplinary action.

If a student wants to apply for this policy, he/she should obtain an application from the Dean's Office in which the course is offered.

To learn more visit: <http://www.registrar.ku.edu/repeat/>



### **Global Awareness Program**

KU launched the Global Awareness Program (GAP) in fall of 2004 in response to Provost Shulenburg's wish that all undergraduates have an international experience before they graduate. The GAP program formally recognizes students' international experiences.

Students are encouraged to have a broader perspective of the world through: study abroad, foreign language study, taking courses with a significant modern international focus and engaging in co-curricular activities that provide an international experience. Whether or not they study abroad, students will enhance their understanding of global issues and cultures by getting involved right here on campus.

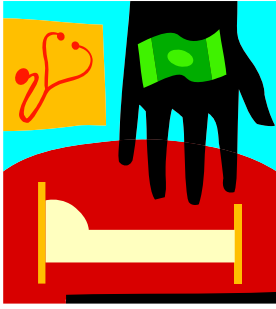
GAP capitalizes on the wealth of international activities at KU. For example, this past semester, students seeking GAP certification attended events such as the Beijing Modern dance and Ravi Shankar- Festival of India performances at the Lied Centre, lectures by world renowned speaker Salman Rushdie and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and former President of Poland Lech Walesa; brown bags at the international Area Studies Centers with discussions on –the Ukraine's Orange revolution, the face of HIV in Zambia, Women in Cuba etc. Students also had a chance to visit international exhibitions hosted by the Spencer Museum of Art and a chance to watch international film festivals hosted by Student Union Activities (SUA) and different departments. All these events are “eye opening” and they give the students an opportunity to learn about different cultures.

GAP is open to all undergraduates regardless of major. It not limited to a particular department or school. It significantly contributes to the mission of making KU an international university by preparing our undergraduates to live and work in an increasingly global environment.

The program began enrolling students in the fall of 2004, and up to date, over 600 students have registered to participate. So far 146 students have received certification on their KU transcripts noting their completion. Students are also presented with a certificate from the Office of International Programs in recognition of their international experience.

More information about GAP visit:

[www.international.ku.edu/programs/GAP/index.shtml](http://www.international.ku.edu/programs/GAP/index.shtml)



## **Health Insurance: Is your Student Covered?**

Success in the university setting depends on many things, one being a student's health and whether or not they have protection from unexpected health related costs. Because the potential for financial hardship is so great in health related situations, KU strongly recommends that each student be covered by health insurance. How about your student? Does he have health insurance? Is she covered by your policy? Will your student soon be ineligible for such coverage?

A new option in student health insurance coverage was introduced in August, 2005. The KU Student Senate and University of Kansas Medical Center Student Governing Council are sponsoring this new plan, underwritten by MEGA, only for KU students. This new plan provides more comprehensive benefits than the plan developed by the State of Kansas. The State of Kansas plan, also voluntary and underwritten by MEGA, provides basic coverage and has been available for a number of years to students in all of the Kansas Board of Regents universities.

Benefits of the new Student Senate plan include:

- Higher lifetime amounts
- More prescription coverage
- Higher payments for services outside of Student Health Services
- 100% payment for covered services at Student Health Services
- No major medical rider needed

Your student may enroll in the new insurance plan at any time, however, if enrollment is completed during the open enrollment period (January 1 -- January 31, 2006) the policy is retroactively effective to January 1, 2006.\*\* Coverage is available for the spring semester only or for the spring and summer semesters. Coverage begins when enrollment is completed and premium is paid.

**\*\* Please Note: If your student has been enrolled in the Regent plan during the fall semester, 2005, they will not be eligible to enroll in the Student Senate plan until August, 2006.**

For more information, contact the Student Health Services Insurance Office (785.864.9522), visit the Student Health Services website ,[www.studenthealth.ku.edu](http://www.studenthealth.ku.edu), or visit the insurance provider website: [www.studentresources.com](http://www.studentresources.com).

## **Billing Information**

Please remember that KU does not mail paper invoices for tuition and fees; rather, we use the eBill system. Students will be notified by email that a new eBill has been generated on or about the 21<sup>st</sup> of each month. To obtain the eBill, a student needs to login to Enroll & Pay then select Learner Services - Finances – View/Print a Bill. For complete information visit: [http://www.bursar.ku.edu/STUDENT\\_INFO/ebill.aspx](http://www.bursar.ku.edu/STUDENT_INFO/ebill.aspx)

For a parent to have access to the billing information, ask your student to set up a Guardian Account for you. This allows you to check the financial account whenever it is convenient for you. For information on the Guardian Account visit: [www.bursar.ku.edu/STUDENT INFO/payment login information.aspx](http://www.bursar.ku.edu/STUDENT_INFO/payment_login_information.aspx)

### **Hashinger Residence Hall Renovation**

Hashinger Hall is receiving a facelift this year. Actually, the 40+ year-old building is undergoing a full renovation, including all new infrastructure (plumbing, electrical, etc.) plus state of the art voice, data, and cable connectivity. Each wing will have a study room and the floor lounges will have magnificent picture window views to both the east and the west. Student rooms will remain traditional doubles with the shared bathroom down the hall. Each student room will now have a sink, as well. The traditional double rooms can also be rented as singles.

Hashinger will remain the Center for the Creative Arts. The performance theatre will be expanded. Other facilities will include a dance studio, music practice rooms, an art room, and a wardrobe/sewing room. A Faculty Partner apartment will also be included in the renovations to facilitate having a faculty mentor living within the residence hall as an informal resource for students and staff.

A portion of the second level of Hashinger Hall will include a dining facility called The Studio. The Studio will have a Euro-style dining island featuring Brella's sandwiches, pizza, and a grill. In addition, there will be a small grab-and-go section for students with busy schedules. The Studio's seating area will be cozy and comfortable with a fireplace and a walk-out deck. A trendy coffee house, "Pulse" will be a nice addition for a late night java run or poetry reading on stage. "Pulse" will feature a local brand coffee, The Roasterie Coffee from Kansas City and Freshens Smoothies. The expanded hours of service will be a nice convenience for residents.

Renovations are scheduled to be completed in time for students to occupy rooms when the fall semester begins in August 2006. Returning students will have the opportunity to request a room in Hashinger Hall during the "Intent to Return Process" in late January.

### **Important Selected KU Dates**

January 20	First day of spring term
March 20 – 26	Spring break, no classes and University offices are open
May 12	Stop Day - no classes
May 15	Finals begin
May 19	Finals end
May 21	Commencement
June 6	First day of summer term
August 13	University housing opens & Hawk Week begins
August 17	First day of fall term

Sincerely,  
Jane A. Tuttle, Ed.D.  
Assistant to the Vice Provost for Student Success  
The University of Kansas  
[www.vpss.ku.edu](http://www.vpss.ku.edu)

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Address your questions or comments to [parents@ku.edu](mailto:parents@ku.edu) . Please do not use your Reply key to send e-mail message.

To change your e-mail address, send your old and new e-mail address to [parents@ku.edu](mailto:parents@ku.edu).  
To subscribe to the list, visit [www.parentassociation.ku.edu/](http://www.parentassociation.ku.edu/)

*Helpful Links:*

KU Parent Association [www.parentassociation.ku.edu/](http://www.parentassociation.ku.edu/)

KU Alumni Association [www.kualumni.org/](http://www.kualumni.org/)

KU Endowment Association [www.kuendowment.org/](http://www.kuendowment.org/)

Parents are invited to learn more about legislative affairs at: [www.govrelations.ku.edu/](http://www.govrelations.ku.edu/)

KU News: KU news releases and announcements are available on line at  
[www.ku.edu/~kunews/](http://www.ku.edu/~kunews/)

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